

# NEW PEST ADVISORY GROUP (NPAG)

## USDA APHIS - Plant Protection and Quarantine

Center for Plant Health Science & Technology  
Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory



Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey National Meeting

Las Vegas, NV

December 2003

# NEW PEST ADVISORY GROUP (NPAG)

## What is NPAG?

The **New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG)** is the USDA, Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) body that quickly assesses and recommends a course of action regarding new or exotic plant pests. NPAG functions out of the Center for Plant Health Science & Technology (CPHST).

Dr Larry Brown, NPAG Chair



Stacy Scott, NPAG  
Executive Secretary



Nakieta McCullum, NPAG  
Coordinator and the Core Team

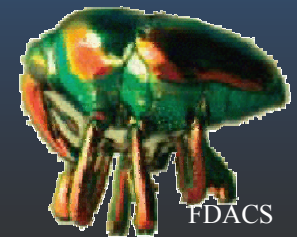
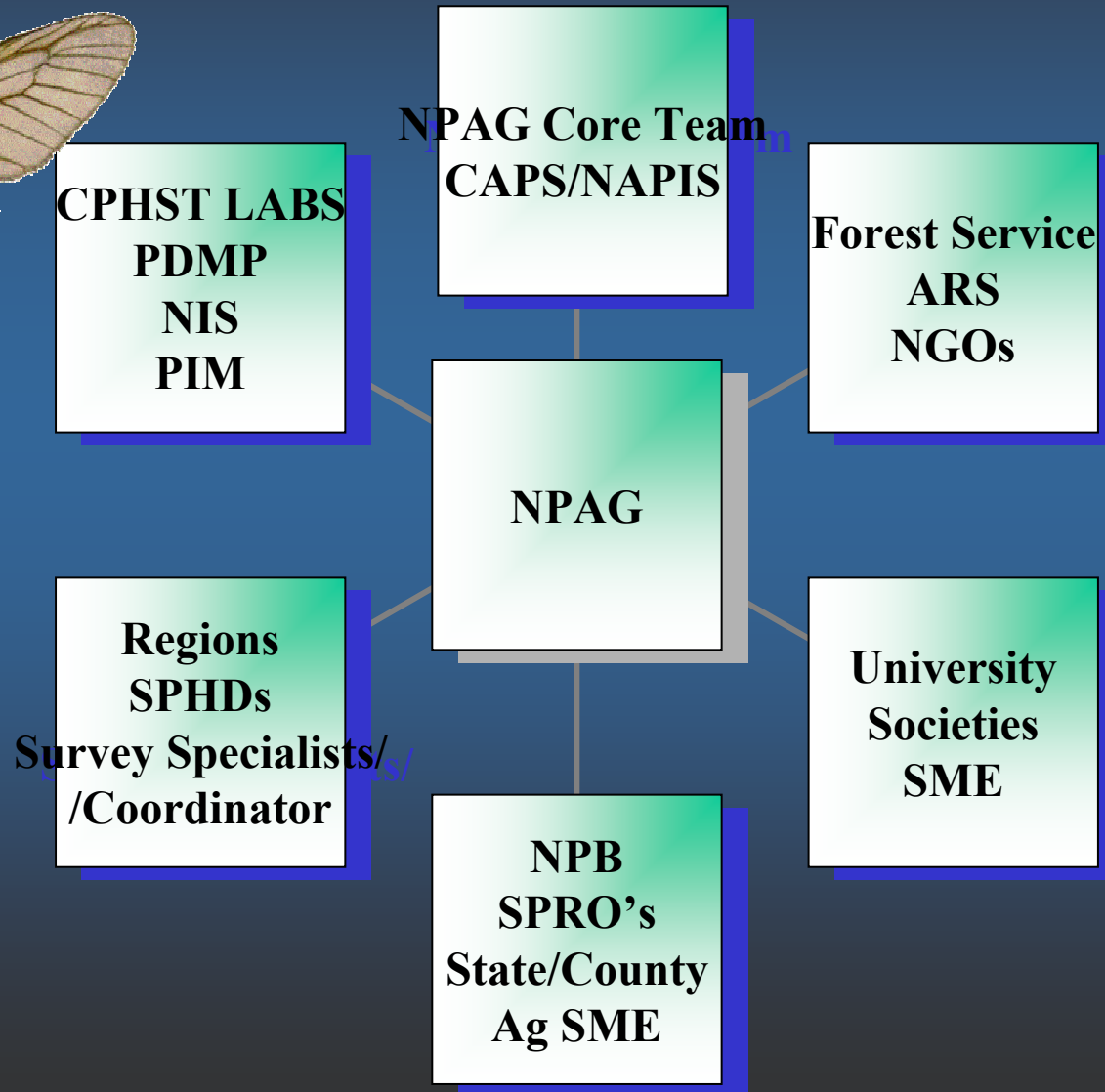


# New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG)

## Who is NPAG?



Siberian Zoological  
Museum

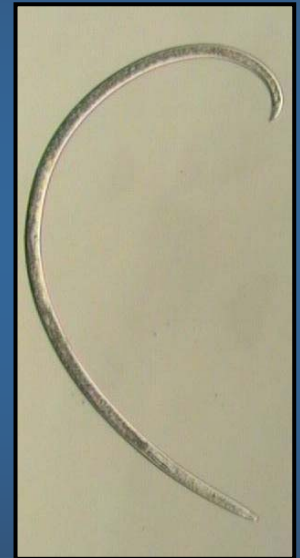


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# NEW PEST ADVISORY GROUP (NPAG)

**Mission:** NPAG assesses new and potential exotic plant pest introductions into the United States to determine the recommended course of action.



# **New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG) Functions:**



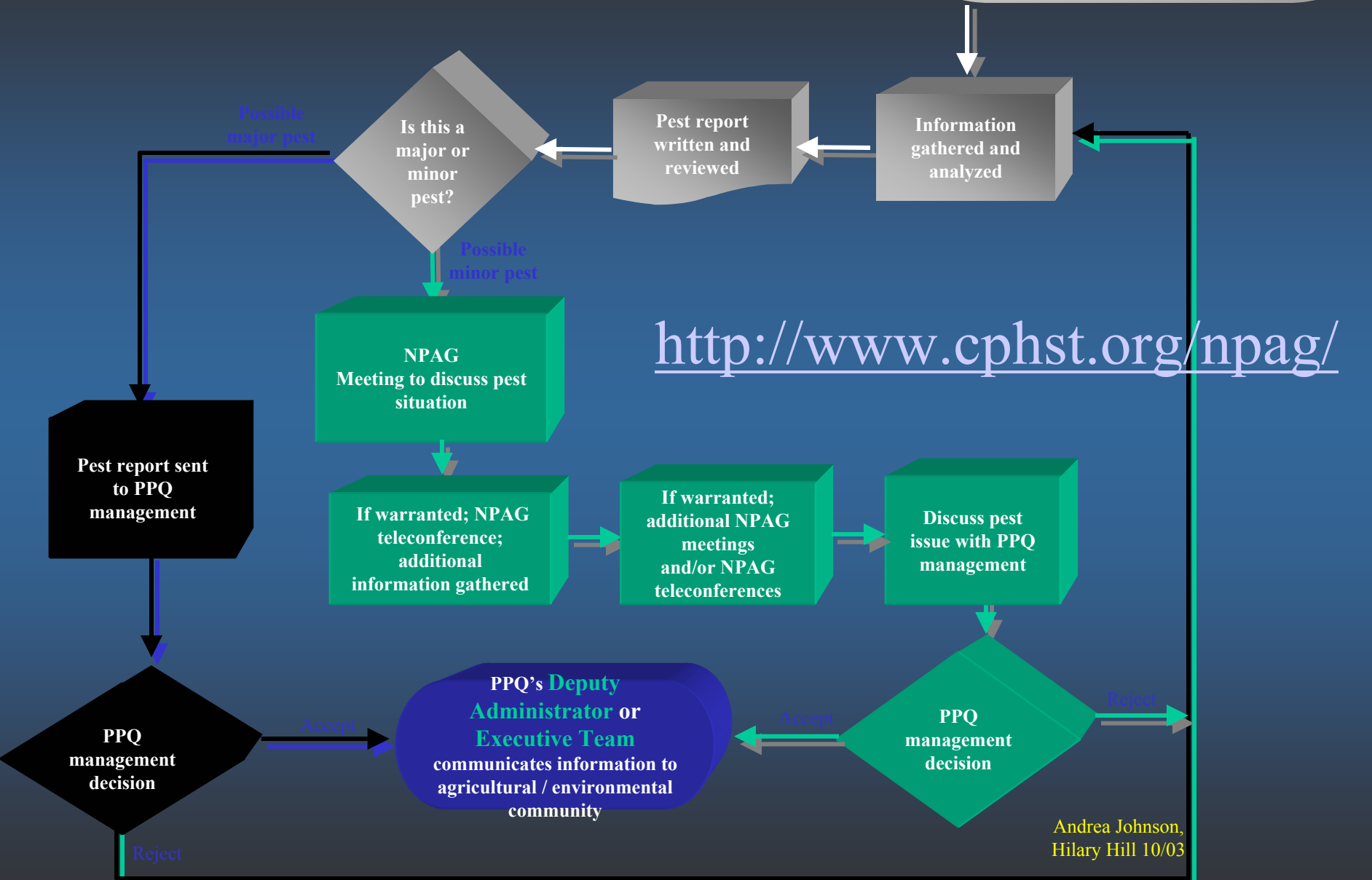
## **What Triggers NPAG Action?**

**NPAG procedures begin upon receipt of a confirmed report  
of the actual or potential entry of a new plant pest into the  
United States**

**AND**

**The identification of the plant pest is verified by PPQ  
National Identification Services (NIS) via the  
ARS Systematic Entomology Lab (SEL)**

# NPAG Process: Decision Rules



# New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG) Functions

- ❖ Evaluating significance of plant pests believed to be new to or imminently threatening the U.S.
- ❖ Coordination of information sharing and solicitation of expertise
  - Assembles an *ad hoc* panel to ensure expert evaluation
- ❖ Recommending options and actions on how PPQ should respond to a new plant pest
  - *NPAG does not make policy*





# New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG) Values

❖ *Accuracy*

❖ *Inclusiveness*

❖ *Timeliness*



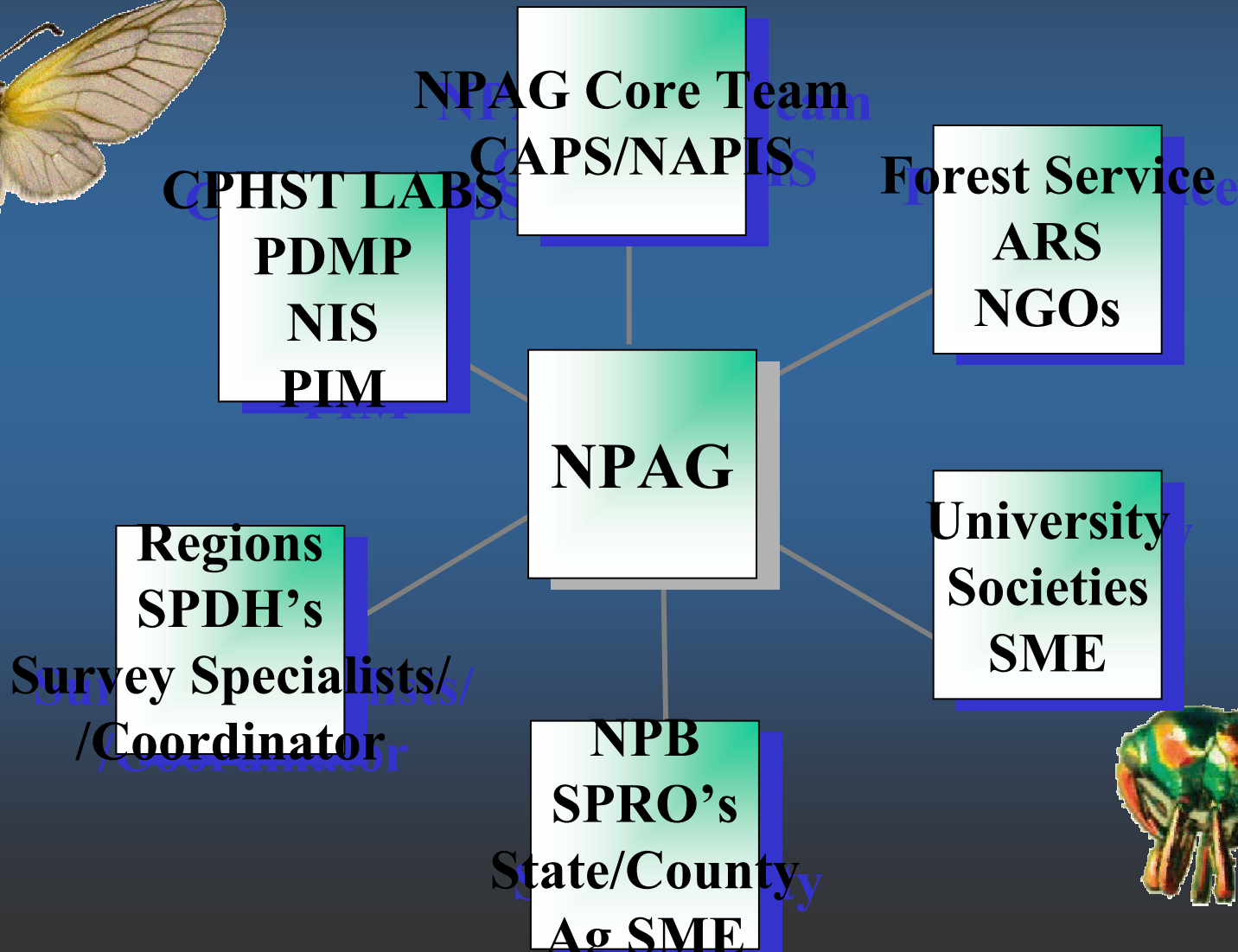


# New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG) Process

*Ad hoc panel participants:*



Siberian Zoological  
Museum



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# **New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG) Process**

## **The Art of preliminary Risk Assessment**



# **New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG) Process Risk Assessment**



**The New Pest Advisory Group employs risk assessment criteria and terminology that is in harmony with:**

- The USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine Pathway-Initiated Pest Risk Assessment: Guidelines for Qualitative Assessments, Version 5.02 (PPQ, 2000).
- The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
  - ✓ International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures, Publication No. 2: Guidelines for Pest Risk Analysis (FAO, 1996)
  - ✓ International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures, Publication No. 11: Guidelines for Pest Risk Analysis for Quarantine Pests (FAO, 2001b).
  - ✓ And the IPPC Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms (FAO, 2002).



# New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG) Process

## Risk Assessment



### NPAG Report

- Initiating Event, Notifier and affiliation, Notification date
- Datasheet(s), PRA's
- Current Regulatory Status
- Pest Situation Overview
  - Biology (host range, climate suitability, phytogeographical regions at risk)
  - Prevalence and global distribution:

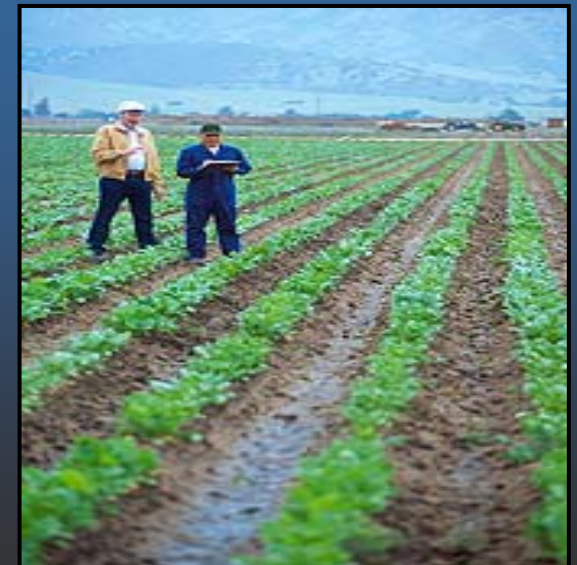




# New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG) Process

## Risk Assessment

- Pest Situation Overview (continued)
  - Potential pathways and spread
  - Potential economic/environmental /social impacts, trade implications
  - NPAG Teleconference(s)
- Current response and activities, technology/knowledge gaps and needs (regulatory and phytosanitary measure feasibility and efficacy)
- NPAG recommended regulatory status
- Recommendations
- Key References (citing the evidence)



# Recent NPAG Pest Cases



New Zealand Forest Service



J. LaBonte, ODA



O. Kosterin

# Case Study #1: *Inula britannica*

## British Yellowhead

- **Initiating Event, Notifier and affiliation, Notification Date:** NPAG was notified of *Inula Britannica* by Al Tasker (PPQ-ISPM) on August 17, 2000. There are two populations that have been established for over 20 years in Ottawa and Quebec, and a population discovered in 1915 on Long Island, NY that has not been relocated.
- **Data Sheet(s):** Schall, 2000
- **Pest Risk Assessment:** Lehtonen, 2000



# Case Study #1: *Inula britannica*

## British Yellowhead



- **Potential Economic/Environmental Impacts, Trade Implications:**
- Since 1990, *I. britannica* has been found in three Michigan nurseries (Ottawa and Allegan counties), traveling as rhizomatous material with shipments of hosta plants from the Netherlands.
- In 1994, the Netherlands placed *I. britannica* on the noxious weed list for exports, after it was observed as a significant pest of hosta nurseries
- Different experts in Australia (Rod Randall) and the United States (Bill Gregg) say precaution with this species is warranted in order to protect a wide range of natural areas. It has a propensity for wet habitats (Schall 2000).
- 2003 surveys indicated negative findings in the United States.



# Case Study #1: *Inula britannica*

## British Yellowhead



### Decision and Action Tracking

NPAG Tracking Number	Scientific Name Common Name	Deputy/ET Approval Date	Decisions and Approved Actions of Deputy/Executive Team	Timeline for Action Items	Action Leader
00-08-17	<i>Inula britannica</i> Linnaeus: British Yellowhead	September 12, 2003	1) Retain as reportable/nonactionable pending survey results and recommendations of the National APHIS Weed Team. 2) Discuss with NPB.	1) Before November 2003 NPB meeting 2) November 2003 NPB Meeting	1) Al Tasker, PPQ-ISPM 2) John Payne, PPQ-PHP

# Case Study #2:

## *Scolytus schevyrewi* Semenov, the Banded Elm Bark Beetle\*

\*Proposed Common Name

April 2003: *Scolytus schevyrewi*, an exotic scolytid beetle species previously unknown from the United States, was trapped in Aurora, Colorado (Adams County) and Ogden (Weber County) and Clearfield (Davis County), Utah. The specimens were identified by Jim LaBonte (ODA) and Stephen L. Wood (Brigham Young University, emeritus). The identifications were confirmed by Dr. Vandenberg (USDA-ARS-SEL).

May 21<sup>st</sup>: NPAG Teleconference



J. LaBonte, ODA

# Case Study #2:

## *Scolytus schevyrewi* Semenov, the Banded Elm Bark Beetle\*

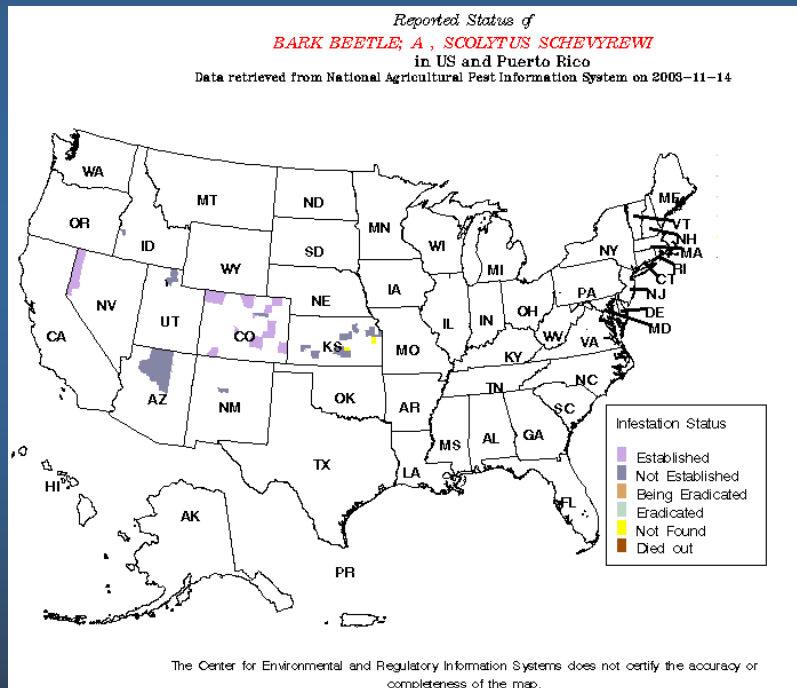
\*Proposed Common Name

NPAG Tracking Number	Scientific Name Common Name	Executive Team Approval Date*	Approved Actions of Deputy/Executive Team	Timeline for Action Items	Action Leader
03-05-01	<i>Scolytus schevyrewi</i> Semenov Bark Beetle	July 25, 2003	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Look at insect collections at Universities/ States/Canada and encourage them to re-examine <i>Scolytus multistriatus</i> I.D's that could be <i>S. schevyrewi</i>.</li> <li>2) Identify major rail yards in the Plains and western states especially those located near high risk areas, urban forests, hosts, parks, and greenway sites.</li> <li>3) Develop a survey plan to delimit <i>S. schevyrewi</i>.</li> <li>4) Check potential habitats/host material that may be adjacent to known and newly discovered occurrences of <i>S. schevyrewi</i>.</li> <li>5) Inquire subject matter experts to determine the type of lure that might be best for <i>S. schevyrewi</i>.</li> <li>6) Investigate the possible pathogenic fungal relationship.</li> <li>7) If <i>S. schevyrewi</i> is found to be more widespread than was known as of July 25, 2003, PDMP is to modify actions 1-6, and make a revised recommendation to the Deputy.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Periodic Update</li> <li>2) Periodic Update</li> <li>3) Periodic Update</li> <li>4) Periodic Update</li> <li>5) Completed</li> <li>6) Periodic Update</li> <li>7) December 15, 2003</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) PDMP - Coanne O'Hern</li> <li>2) PPQ Western Region - Roeland Elliston and Bill Kauffman.</li> <li>3) PDMP - Coanne O'Hern</li> <li>4) PPQ CO SPDH - Patrick McPherrren, Dawn Holzer (Pest Survey Specialist).</li> <li>5) CPHST PERAL - Hilary Hill</li> <li>6) PPQ CO SPDH - Patrick McPherrren, Tom Harrington (Iowa State Univ) and USFS staff</li> <li>7) PDMP – Coanne O'Hern</li> </ol>

# Case Study #1:

## *Scolytus schevyrewi* Semenov, the Banded Elm Bark Beetle\*

\*Proposed Common Name



By November, 2003  
specimens were  
found in CO, UT, ID,  
NV, AZ and KS.



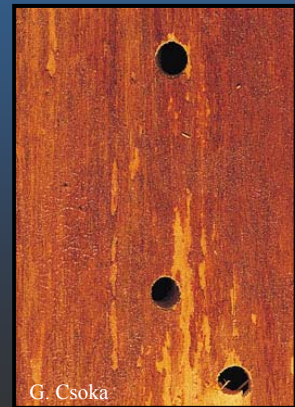


## Case Study #2: *Sirex noctilio* Fabricius, European Wood Wasp

*Sirex noctilio* was found on July 22, 2002 at the Otis Elevator Co. in Bloomington, Indiana by Otis Elevator staff was verified as *S. noctilio* by the Systematic Entomology Laboratory (SEL), Beltsville MD on 8-01-02



Subsequently, no *Sirex noctilio* has been found in the United States.



## Case Study #2: *Sirex noctilio* Fabricius, European Wood Wasp

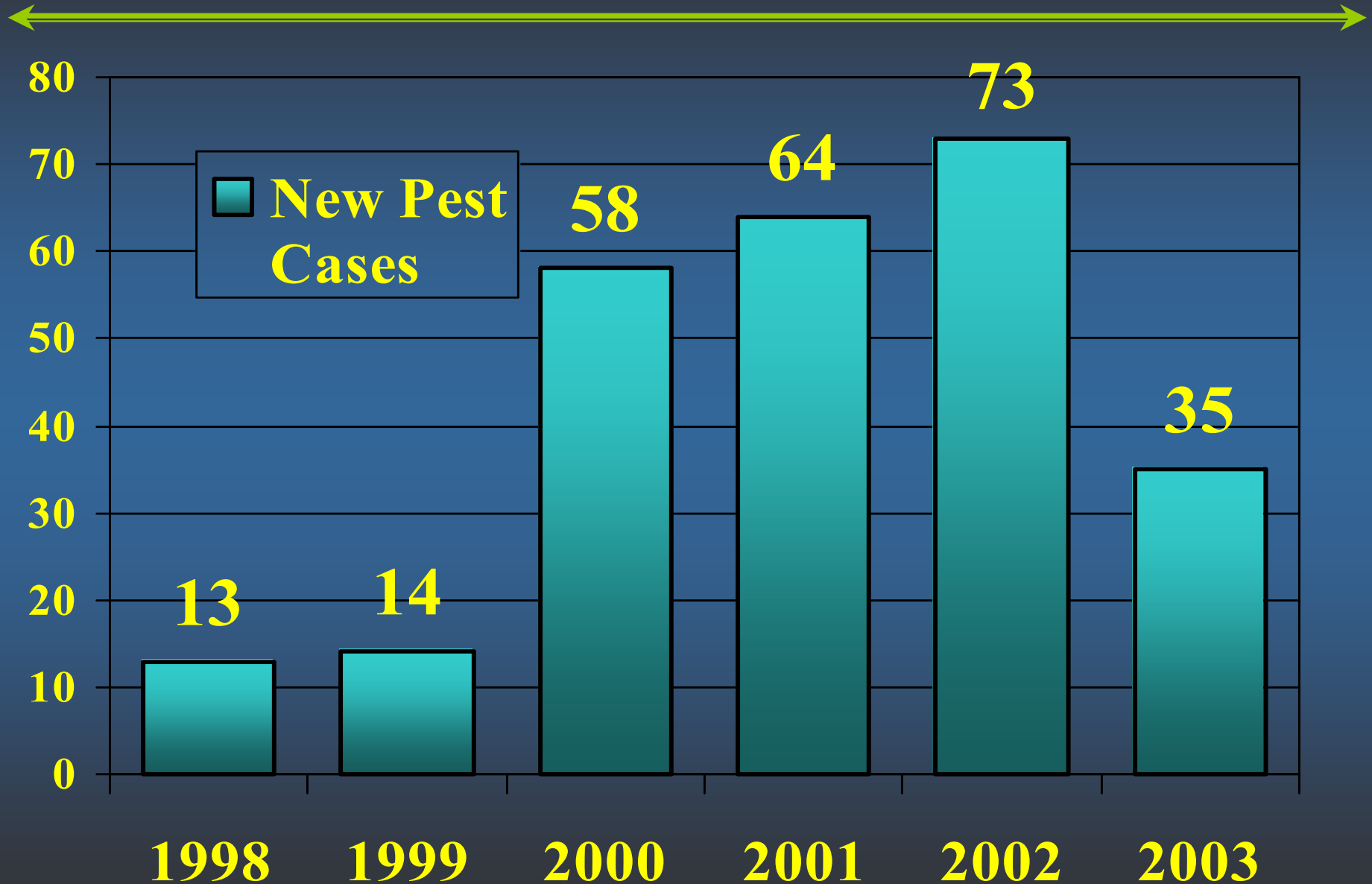
NPAG Tracking Number	Scientific Name Common Name	Deputy/ET Approval Date	Decisions and Approved Actions of Deputy/Executive Team	Timeline for Action Items	Action Leader
02-08-14	<i>Sirex noctilio</i> Fabricius: Sirex Woodwasp	Nov 14, 2003	1) Draft New Pest Response Guidelines for <i>Sirex noctilio</i> . 2) Continue evaluation of the SWPM pathway for <i>S. noctilio</i> . 3) Add <i>S. noctilio</i> to the APHIS Regulated Plant Pest List. 4) A priority pest for CAPS Survey	1) March 14, 2004 2) ASAP 3) Now 4) In time for next survey season, 2004	1) Mike Stefan, PPQ-PDMP 2) Ron Sequiera, PPQ-CPHST 3) Larry Brown, PPQ-CPHST 4) Jerry Fowler, PPQ-Eastern Region

# New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG)

## Recent Pest Case Accomplishments



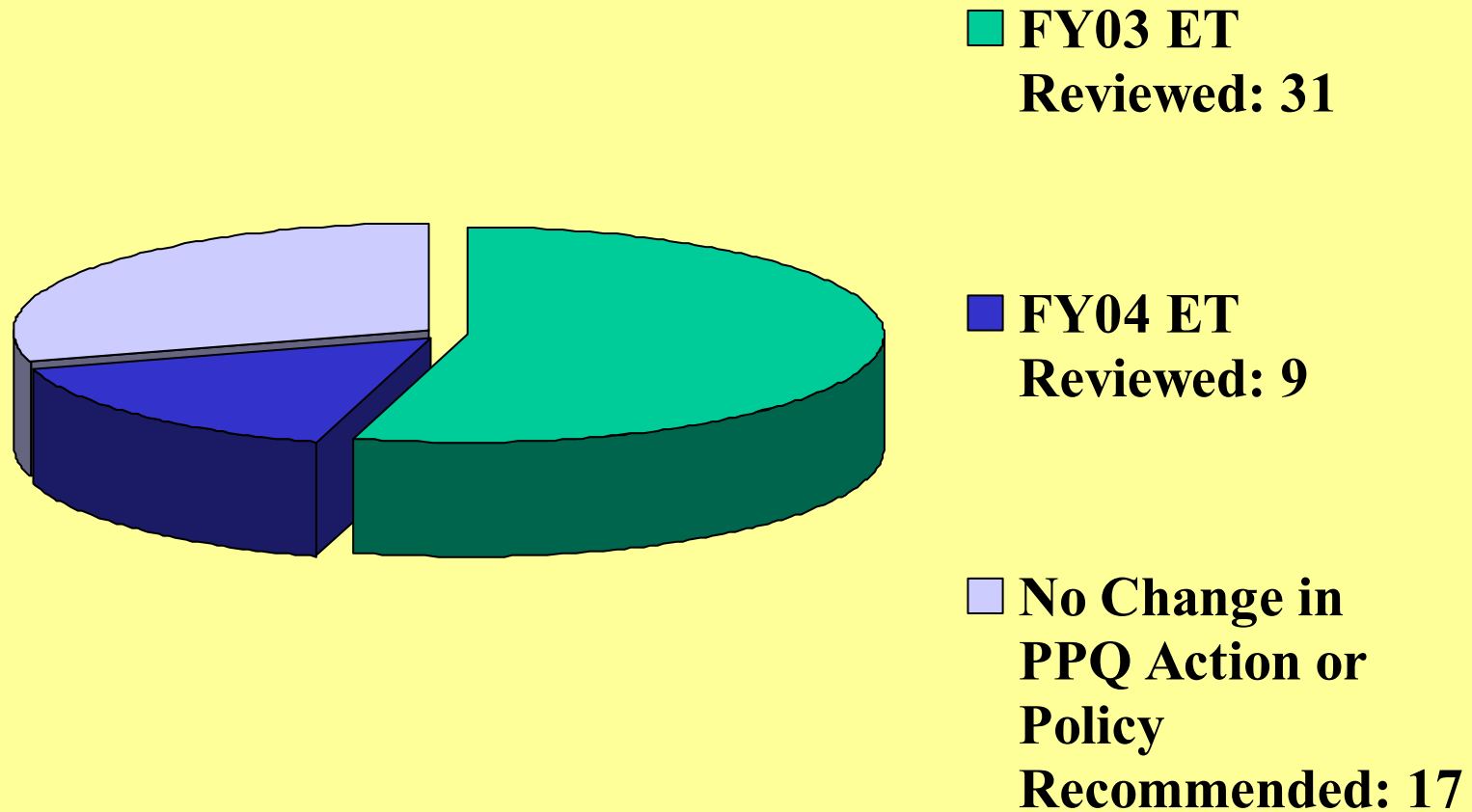
# The New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG)





# NPAG Pest Case Completion – FY03/FY04

## 57 Completed Cases



# NPAG Summary

- Values: **Accuracy** **Timeliness** **Inclusiveness**
- Assesses new and potential pest introductions
- Assembles an *ad hoc* panel to ensure expert evaluation
- Recommends PPQ action to protect US plant resources



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<http://www.cphst.org/npag/>